



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Duane Le Allen

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Group Art No.: 2755

Serial No.: 08/925,703

Examiner: George Opie

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Docket No: MICE-0083-US
(97.01389.00)

Title: Method and Apparatus for
Installing an Operating System

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 4, 2001

Dear Sir:

In an Office Action mailed on January 4, 2001, claims 34-51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over alleged admitted prior art in view of Lipe. These rejections are respectively traversed as discussed below in the corresponding sections.

Rejections of Claims 34-43:

The method of claim 34 includes providing an operating system package that includes a first configuration file. This configuration file includes information that is used by the operating system package to install first drivers for a first set of devices on a computer. The method also includes providing a second configuration file that is external to the operating system package. The second configuration file includes information to direct the installation of the second driver for a second device. As noted in previous Office Actions, a possible advantage of this arrangement is that a corrupted driver in an operating system package may be replaced. Other and different advantages are possible.

In contrast, neither the alleged admitted prior art nor Lipe, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests providing a second configuration file that is external to an operating system package. The Examiner points to a configuration manager 158 of Lipe. However, this configuration manager 158 is part of the operating system 10, as Lipe specifically states in col. 26, ll. 26-30, "the operating system 10

Date of Deposit: 4/4/01

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Corey McGowan